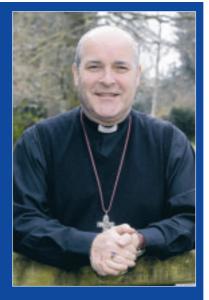
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Week ending Friday April 1, 2016



'Immigration to East End source of unique Essex energy'

EXCLUSIVE

By Steve Neale

basildon@yellowad.co.uk

IMMIGRATION has changed Essex and east London for the better according to the Bishop of Chelmsford.

Commenting on statements American presidential candidate Donald Trump has made about Muslims and Mexicans, Bishop Stephen Cottrell said fears about immigration could be better understood by the biblical parable of the Good Samaritan.

In Jesus's story, a Jew is robbed and left for dead. A priest goes by, and then a lawyer. Neither helps.

The Samaritan provides aid, even though he is part of a rival religious group at war with the

Bishop Cottrell said: "We don't realise how very provocative that story is - encouraging us to see that everyone is our neighbour and that we need them.

"An analogy of that today would be perhaps Donald Trump. He falls among thieves. He's left for dead

"Somebody from the Republican Party walks by and doesn't help him. Another 'good' person walks by and doesn't help him. And then a Mexican, an illegal immigrant

comes along and gives him mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. It's the last person you'd expected it to be."

The bishop described Essex and east London as a unique place to live, in part because of a long history of immigration.

He said: "I think it's important not to overplay

it. You know, people are people. But I think there is in Essex a creativity and an entrepreneurial spirit that you don't see in quite the same way in other places.

"I suspect that although some people may not like to hear it, one of the reasons for this spirit is immigration, because over the centuries there has been this close relationship between Essex and the East End of London.

"That makes us a bit lippy. And makes us sometimes, you know, a bit too pleased with ourselves. There's a downside to it.

"But the upside I think is something very wonderful - a creativity and energy, which I definitely see in Essex.'

The bishop was speaking to the Yellow Advertiser as part of the newspaper's annual Easter interview.

He also described why Christians 'embraced" pagan festivals within Christmas and Easter celebrations, and how Essex people played a vital role in the Christian movement over the last 1,000 years.

• Turn to page 4 and 5 for more



TRUMP THAT: The Bishop of Chelmsford Stephen Cottrell (top) has reminded his Essex flock - and Republican US presidential candidate Donald Trump (above) - that we may all one day need the miracle of a modern day Good Samaritan



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Abuse diary goes missing

EXCLUSIVE

By Charles Thomson

basildon@yellowad.co.uk

POLICE investigating alleged Shoebury paedophile ring 'cover-up' are searching for a diary which could hold vital clues

Government papers show police seized the book – which contained names and addresses of individuals in London from the home of a convicted paedophile in the late 1980s but it later reportedly went 'missing'

The book was taken from a man jailed a year later for his role in what Essex Council described as a 'sex ring' targeting 'adolescent boys'

He and one other man were

convicted in 1990 of child sex offences, but four whistleblowers have now come forward to report that several young victims disclosed abuse by many more men.

Two sources - both former charity workers who helped prepare the victims for court have told the YA that boys reported abuse by gangs of men in Essex and London.

Essex Police announced in early March that it was conducting a formal review of the original investigation after the whistleblowers whose accounts were described by Police Commissioner Nick Alston as 'credible' - said multiple victims were never interviewed, other alleged perpetrators were not prosecuted and most victims never received



SHOCKWAVE Recent Yellow Advertiser investigations into Shoeburyness historic child abuse allegations

appropriate after-care.

Essex Council records from 1989 describe a meeting where police officers discussed the

alleged paedophile ring with Social Services, charity workers and staff from a local school.

The papers state that one of the officers - from Leigh

CID – told the meeting that police were 'following up' names and addresses of individuals in London. found in the diary.

But the Yellow Advertiser has seen typewritten notes, dated six months later, of a meeting between charity workers, where it was reported that the book had since gone 'missing'

Multiple whistleblowers have told the YA they recall being told at the time, by people involved in the case, that the diary had been lost

Essex Police confirmed last week that it was investigating what happened to the evidence.

A spokesman said: "Police are aware of the existence of a notebook from an investigation into abuse by two convicted offenders in the 1980s, which may contain information rele-

vant to our current review. "We are now examining our records to establish what happened to the notebook."

Officers are urging anybody with information about the alleged paedophile ring to contact them by dialling 101.

Alternatively, victims can call these specialist helplines:

- National Association for People Abused in Childhood -0808 801 0331.
- SERICC (south and west Essex) 01375 380609.
- CARA (mid and north Essex) 01206 769795.
- SoSRC (Southend) 01702 667590.
- National Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse – 0808 800 5000.

ail terms for acid attack couple

A MAN and woman have been jailed over an acid

attack in Thundersley.
Ashley Russell, 29, of
Sunnedon, and Christina
Storey, 31, of Studland
Avenue in Wickford, were jailed for a combined 25 years for what police described as an 'unprovoked attack'

The pair followed victim Darren Pidgeon as he drove his car through Thundersley and then, as both cars stopped at a dead end, Russell approached Pidgeon's car, splashed acid in his face and punched him.

Russell then got back in



APPALLING Callous attackers Russell and Storey

his car and was driven away from the scene by

Both were convicted of



throwing a corrosive acid with intent to cause grievous bodily harm.

Russell was jailed for 17

years while Storey was jailed for eight.

DI Chris Rose said: "I am pleased the jury have found Russell and Storey guilty of this appalling and unprovoked attack.

This has been a long and difficult investigation for Darren and his family, and I hope that this verdict can provide them with an element of closure, and the knowledge that justice has been done

"It should also send a message to anyone considering carrying out this type of crime that they will be found out and put before the courts.'



Advertiser has withheld pictures showing damage to the face and body, as they be too distressing

Rape victim's name leaked

POLICE have arrested a second person for breaching the anonymity of a rape victim as part of their enquiries around a man who absconded from court after being convicted.

The 18-year-old man from Southend was arrested on Thursday morning and questioned before being released on police bail until May 17. The case relates to the search for Adrian

Horwat, who fled from Southend Crown Court on Monday March 14, prior to his sentencing for a rape conviction is continuing.

A 21-year-old woman from Southend, who was

also arrested on suspicion of breaching the anonymity of a rape victim under section five of the Sexual Offences (Amendment) Act 1992, is on police bail until May 19.

Anyone with information about Horwat's current whereabouts they are asked to contact police on 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

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EASTER MESSAGE

Living on the edg

Bishop of Chelmsford, the Rt Rev Stephen Cottrell speaks to Stephen Neale about immigration, Donald Trump and the history of Christianity in Essex

You travel all over the UK. Is there anything

special about the character of Essex?

People are people wherever you go to in the world. There's a common humanity, and it's important not to think that some people are more special than others

But I am from Essex, and I have a great love for Essex, and there is a creativity and an entrepreneurial spirit that you don't see in quite the same way in other places.

What has created that 'spirit'?

I suspect that, although some people may not like to hear it, one of the reasons is immigration. Because over the centuries there has been this close relationship between Essex and the East End of London.

Wave after wave of immigration has come to the East End, and often people filter out into other parts. So in Essex there's been a history of immigration. And a history of movement. That makes us a bit lippy. And makes us sometimes a bit too pleased with ourselves.

But the upside is something wonderful - a creativity and energy, which I see more in Essex than in other places.

Do you mean a bit Del Boyish?

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Well, he was south London. And I wouldn't want to stereotype it too much. But I'm aware of an entrepreneurial spirit in Essex and a creativity.

A lot of writers and musicians come to Essex, and there always seem to be more X Factor finalists from Essex



SERVICE: Bishop Stephen Cottrell and right, performing duties on a formal occasion than anywhere else. People from here like to have a go.

Is that spirit in you too?

I'm an Essex boy. And I think it probably is. It's a slightly anti-establishment thing as well. And that's all right as long as you keep all those things in perspective. They can be very power-ful forces for good. But one has to be cautious. A proper respect for good authority is also important.

..pay Caesar's things to Caesar?

Render to Caesar what is Caesar's, render to God what's God's. So there's a proper respect one has for order and government. But there's also an, "I'm not going to take this lying down if I

think this is wrong", approach. What I like about Essex is there's a proper respect for authority and good order, but if people think something is wrong they will say so.



one hand it's the story of the most cruel and pointless death. Many people say, "If there was ever an innocent man put to death, it was Jesus Christ." But the other side of the story is the resurrec-

tion: That God raised this Jesus to life. What does that story mean? We see in that story the nature of love: Jesus the innocent man. The one person who is completely innocent goes to his death. That appears to be the end

dead, but love will keep rising up.

That's hard to believe sometimesWhen I'm with bereaved people I find myself talking with them about grief.

I may say: "Would you like to be

of the story. But God raised him to life

to show love. You can think love is

healed of your grief?" I've never met anybody who said, bereavement in the sense of the person coming back to life. But they know

that isn't on offer.
So I say: "Would you like the grief taken away?" And they often reply: "Well, no. Because my bereavement is the sign of my love. If I stop grieving for the one I love, I would have stopped loving them. I don't want it to stop because I don't want to stop loving."

That is a profound mystery. That actually, a person would rather carry on hurting than stop loving. I think most of us know that. That love sometimes hurts. But the hurt, paradoxically is the side of the love. What the cross shows us, through the sacrifice of Jesus, is God's love for us. He chose to hurt for us.

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NFWS

Christianity in Essex

How did Christianity arrive in

The most significant date is 654AD. That's not the date Christianity arrived; that's the date somebody called St Cedd arrived. Cedd was a monk on Lindisfarne, at Holy Island on the Northumbrian coast. We don't know exactly when the first Christians came. Probably the first Christian was a Roman slave. A Jewish religion, then a slave religion. So either a Roman centurion or one of their slaves was the first Christian in these isles.

Who was Cedd?

Cedd was a monk. And monks in those days were missionaries; so that's what he trained as. In the middle of the eighth century, Cedd travels down the East Coast. He landed on the Dengie Peninsula, at what we now know as Bradwell. The reason he probably landed there is because there was an ancient Roman settlement there. A fort. The British Isles in those days were at the furthest reaches of what was the Roman Empire. It got to us last. So we got pretty good records of what was said to date and you can read about it in that book by Bede. We know Cedd went to Southminster Which is also on the Dengie





SACRED SITE: St Peter's Chapel, Bradwell

Was Southminster particularly significant?

The word 'minster' is the giveaway word. If you find the word in an English place, it usually means it has some sort of monastic heritage linked to it. Then he went to Up-'minster'. Again the word tells you. So he set up these kind of mission centres. And from those, the monks of his community would go and take the Christian faith to the surrounding villages.

So the seventh century was an important date?

That's the most significant time in the history of Christianity in Essex. Not the first person to bring the Christian faith. But the first person to do it in a significant, organised, successful way. There were other significant points in the history for Essex. They were not dates, but places.

Where are they?

Barking Abbey was very significant. And the Abbess Ethelburga was very famous. What's interesting about Barking Abbey is that the most significant person in its history was a woman, which of course was pretty revolutionary in those days – that a woman that was the head of a monastic order that had men in it. Then there's Waltham Abbey. Another very significant place.

What impact did Christianity have on the Essex landscape?

Well, it's how we have inherited a parish system. As Christianity took root, every town and village would have its church. And so today across Essex we have hundreds and hundreds of medieval churches. Very few of them are anywhere near as old as the chapel of Bradwell.

For the full text of this interview, including a 'pagan special', visit yellowad.co.uk



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Kids enjoy tl



Pupils at Friars Primary School Shoebury build a keyhole garden with Send a Cow Charity

PUPILS at a Shoebury school made a keyhole garden, went on a bug hunt and rigged up a tip tap after they deserted the classroom for an outside day.

The youngsters from Friars Primary School in Constable Way were inspired by charity Send a Cow, which pioneers these gardens in Africa.

A central basket holds compost which feeds vegetables planted around it inside a brick frame. It is a great way to grow plants all year round - and an ideal way to help African families feed themselves.

Teacher Stephanie Eastment said: "The children had a fantastic day and thoroughly

enjoyed a variety of activities.
"We hope to hold some fundraising events later and send a cow to Africa ourselves.

"The idea is to buy a pregnant cow so that the calf can be handed on to help another family as



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NEWS

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Ex MP finally cleared of abuse allegations Case of 'VIP ring' too weak to be referred

By Charles Thomson

basildon@yellowad.co.uk

FORMER Billericay Harvey Proctor has been cleared of all allegations in an investigation into historic child abuse and a murder. The same inquiry found that former Minister Ted Heath was also innocent of any similar claims.

The Metropolitan Police Service announced this week that it was shutting down Operation Midland, which probed allegations of a VIP paedophile ring at the heart of Government in the late 1970s and early 1980s.

A statement issued by the force said investigations often result in no action against individuals, and that "everyone is innocent unless proven guilty in a court."

Mr Proctor was one of several high profile figures named in allegations made by a single accuser. The indecent 'incidents' reportedly took place between 1975 and 1984.

In a press conference last August, Mr Proctor described the police probe as "inept", adding: "If it was not so serious, it would be laughable. It is so far-fetched. It is unbelievable



CLEARED Harvey Proctor described police probe as "inept" and "laughable"

because it is not true."

Seven months later, after an investigation which spanned almost 18 months and cost more than £1.7million, police decided the case was too weak even to be referred to the CPS for a charging decision.

In a statement issued through his solicitors, Mr Proctor called for senior officers involved in the investigation to resign, Detective including Superintendent Kenny Mc-Donald, who publicly stated in 2014 that he

tions to be "credible and true

Mr Proctor also called for his accuser to be prosecuted for 'seeking to pervert the course of justice'

He added: "I believe Operation Midland should now be the subject of a truly independent public inquiry.

A Met Police spokesman said: "In September 2015 the force acknowledged that the use of the phrase 'credible and true' at a media appeal could have given the wrong impression that the outcome of the investigation was being pre-empted. However, an openmind was retained throughout.

"In the course of the investigation, officers have not found evidence to prove that they were knowingly misled by a complainant.

"The force will not apologise for carrying out its duty to investigate serious allegations of non-recent abuse. We recognise, however, how unpleasant it is for an individual to be investigated and to have their innocence publicly questioned.

Mr Proctor said he planned to publish a memoir, which will include coverage Operation Midland.

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NEWS



Sweet Honey in hurry to make her entrance

Mum gives birth at antenatal class centre

A CANVEY nursery and children's centre welcomed its youngest ever visitor when Honey Charters was born on the premises last week.

She weighed in at 7lb 10oz at Little Tewkes in Dovervelt Road after mum, Sherrie, turned up for the regular antenatal group on Tuesday. She believed that she may be going into labour with her second baby and telephoned ahead to her midwife before making her way there.

She was due to have a home birth but Honey had other ideas.

Lindsey Gillingham, senior team leader for children's ser-

vices, said: "This has been a momentous occasion for the children's centres.

"We welcome dozens of mums and babies through our doors every week but this is our first on-site birth.

"Mother and baby are both doing well and we're all delighted for them."

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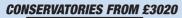


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FOULNESS is the biggest of the Essex islands and the fourth largest off the coast of England.

Close to Southend with vast stretches of isolated marshland, Foulness is no ordinary island.

People call ditches upside down hedges; Richard Noble tested the jet engine of Thrust II here before breaking the speed of sound and the old school house is a heritage cen-

The island is owned by the MoD and has been used for many years to test weapons. In the middle of this lives a community of about 160 people.

The nearest thing to a settlement is Churchend. It has a tiny village store, post office and a

No ordinary

19th century church, St Mary's, built using Kentish ragstone.

The only pub closed years ago. Foulness and adjoining Maplin Sands are a haven for wildlife with a large colony of avocets. The centre is in the for-mer school, the two-roomed building has displays of archaeological finds dating back to Roman times. It is open from noon to 4pm every first Sunday of the month from April to



WORSHIP: St Mary The Virgin Church, Foulness

Photo by Mark Cleveland October. Public access to the island is restricted to the open days of the centre.

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Chest

A WOMAN from Rayleigh has been reunited with the ambulance crews who saved her life after a sudden cardiac arrest a year ago

When Nicola Worts, 48, of Rayleigh, experienced chest pains, she and husband Lee called 111 for help. The call was swiftly passed to the East of England Ambulance Service.

When an ambulance crew arrived, Nicola appeared to no longer be in pain, but as she stood up she collapsed, and went into cardiac arrest. At that moment, backup arrived in the form of paramedics Tracey Bennett and Kevin McEvoy.

This was newly-qualified Tracey's first cardiac arrest patient, but after 16 minutes of CPR and four shocks with a defibrillator, Tracey and Kevin restarted Nicola's heart.

Tracey said: "I never thought we weren't going to bring her back, even though those 16 minutes felt like forever." Kevin added: "I've never experienced a cardiac arrest like this one.

Nicola was taken to Southend Hospital where she spent several weeks recovering. She discovered later that she had experienced a spontaneous coronary artery dissection (SCAD) - a

rare type of heart attack.

Lee said: "It's been tough at times, and I often wrapped her in cotton wool in the beginning, but

Nicola added: "My thanks to everyone who helped save my life – if it wasn't for them I wouldn't be here today. My cardiologist, Dr Tom Keeble at Southend Hospital has been fantastic as well.

Nicola now helps with research on SCAD at Glenfield Hospital in Leicester.

→ scadresearch.org/about



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Don't blame all muslims for terror

READERS' LETTERS

I WAS once within earshot of a terrorist incident. Just over two decades ago I was lying in my bed in Heaton (Newcastle-upon-Tyne) when I heard an explosion.

This was around midnight. The IRA had attempted to blow up a gas terminal in Gateshead. They failed. The terminal did not explode. I guess I was a mile or two away anyway, but it was still a reminder of how close we can all get.

I am a quarter Belgian, courtesy of a maternal grand-father. While I consider myself English, I still have an affinity with that small nation. Recent news has made me think of the land of the Walloons and Flemish. It is just awful what has gone on there, awful. Innocent lives lost to the whims of psychopaths.

We must not allow such tragedies to allow irrational judgements to be made. Just as all Catholics are not responsible for the ill deeds of the IRA - and I am an atheist of Catholic descent – so it is also true of Muslims.

Those that plan and carry out such atrocities must be brought to justice. But to rush to judgement, to impose draconian measures, to label whole communities as terrorists or terrorist sympathisers is to hand a victory to those

who commit these dastardly

We must pause, take stock, and embark on a measured response. We have to do what we can to protect all of us. We also need to retain our civilised approach to each other. This small rock called Earth has to accommodate all sorts of people with all sorts of outlooks on life.

We also need to strive for a fairer and more equal world, one where peace reigns.

Julian Ware-Lane

Westcliff-on-Sea

What about the needs of local people?

ON Tuesday, March 22, I attended the Rayleigh Council meeting regarding a discussion and voting for approval or rejection of the proposed Rawreth Lane/Hullbridge Road roundabout, plus the erection of 500 or more dwellings on the Malyons Farm, Hullbridge.

I witnessed what can only be described as one of the most blatant injustices and miscarriages of planning development known.

It was obvious to every member of the public present, as well as those brave souls who stood up to be counted, including our MP Mark Francoise, who had wasted their time and efforts in pointing out the many reasons why these proposed developments should not go ahead in their present forms

They actually did fall on deaf ears.

I always used to think local and district councils looked after the needs and aspirations of those people within their constituencies, to provide a better environment for us to live and bring up our families. I have just found out how misguided my views were.

For example, refusing to recognise the need for an improvement of local infrastructure to accommodate additional construction traffic, prior to this 10-year develop-ment, in an already congested village road network, is beyond belief.

It was most evident the buddie, buddie system is rife within this council chamber, as those who voted to accept the proposals placed before them, had already made their pact with each other.

Be aware, democracy has just fallen in your community.

Keith Ager Hullbridge

Child abuse does not discriminate

HIGH profile child sexual exploitation cases (CSE) like those in Rotherham and Rochdale have led many people to assume that all CSE victims are white British girls. But it's not the case.

Worryingly, this stereotype highlighted in Barnardo's new report, It's Not on the Radar,

means that some front-line workers may be missing children affected by CSE.

Evidence shows that this vile form of abuse affects children regardless of gender, sexuality, ethnicity, faith, dis-ability, background or

upbringing.
Research has found that children and young people with a disability are three times more likely to be abused than children without a disability, while one in five children we help in our own services is male.

In addition, young people questioning their sexuality and searching for advice may be more vulnerable to being groomed online.

Professionals need training to help them identify children who have experienced or are at risk of CSE. This should include recognising that a young person with a learning disability may have a devel-opmental age that is different to their real age; changing the attitude that boys who have sex with older women should be grateful, rather than this being child abuse; not focusing on just one ethnic community above others, and realising that girls can be sexually exploited by older females under the guise of friendship.

Barnardo's also wants organisations to work better together and to share information on the diversity of vic-

tims. It's also critical that school lessons focus on sex and healthy relationships to help children feel more confident in identifying risks. This should include information on

all types of relationships. It's vital that young people, families and experts understand that this horrific form of child abuse can affect any child or young

person. Assumptions must not be made – each victim has their own vulnerabilities.

Recognising the diversity of victims will help ensure CSE victims are identified and get the support they so desperately need.

Javed Khan Chief Executive, Barnardo's

Strike action should be illegal

ALL strike disputes should be against the law, settled only by independent arbitration.

Strikers should not be backpaid for hours not worked, retroactively following a strike

closure, but rather paid from

union funds. The Army, Navy and RAF cannot strike as it would be a threat to the very fabric of our society. If any of the junior doctors' wives or partners needed emergency childbirth treatment, they would scream blue murder if told "it's a DIY as senior doctors are on strike"

Currently we are under potential threat from terrorism. Self-interest from junior doctors is a different kind of threat, but a threat neverthe-

If junior doctors were not able to assist the wounded in an attack, it would surely be a breach of their hippocratic oath. (Before you do good, do no harm). National strikes are black-

mail by any other name.

As the PM says, "We are all in this together" At least some of us are.

Frederick Noakes Basildon

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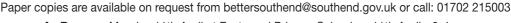
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Essex pupils top class for school attendance

highest for more than a decade, according to statistics published on Thursday.
The Department for Education's latest

data shows the percentage of sessions missed in state-funded schools in Essex fell to 4.4 per cent in the 2014/15 academic year – down slightly from 4.5 per cent in 2013/14 and at its lowest for more than ten years.

The figure, which includes primary, secondary and special schools, is better national averages.

The continued improvements come following close work between Essex County Council's Missing Education and Child Employment Service (previously known as the Education Welfare

Service) and the county's schools.
Cllr Ray Gooding, Essex County
Council's cabinet member for education and lifelong learning, said: "There are clear links between attendance and

ensuring all pupils achieve their full potential

"We work very closely with Essex's schools and I am pleased they have achieved the highest rates of school attendance for more than a decade.

"Where a pupil is failing to attend school on a regular basis, schools work with families to try to resolve any issues that may be preventing atten-

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Lights switch in Essex

ESSEX County Council will convert some 19,000 of all-night streetlights to LED, saving approximately £600k a year as a result of savings in energy and maintenance costs, as well as carbon taxes.

The authority is investing £9.2m into the project, £4.3m of which will be forward funded by an interest free Government loan. Beginning this year and scheduled to be completed in 2018, the LED conversion project will deliver payback over ten years and a return on investment of 115% by year 20. Electricity consumption on the affected lighting stock is estimated to reduce by 63% as a result of the LED conversion project. In 2015, the council carried out a countywide pilot of 1,700 all night streetlights, aimed at evaluating the energy savings, road safety and traffic management benefits of LED technology.

Cllr Rodney L Bass, Essex County Council's portfolio holder for infrastructure said: "The significant cost savings aside, there are a number of clear advantages attached to upgrading our all night streetlights to LED. "





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What's on and what's coming



By LIZ WADE

ESSEX Police Musical Society will be staging a production of Calamity Jane to celebrate their 50th anniversary, but it is not the first time they have done it.

In fact, it was their first produc-tion in the newly constructed Assembly Hall at Essex Police Headquarters, Chelmsford, back in 1966.

They will once again be per-forming the musical in the hall from Tuesday to Saturday, April 12 to 16, as a special anniversary show

In the 1876 Wild West outpost of Deadwood City, gun-toting

tomboy, Calamity Jane, dresses like a man and drives the city stagecoach.

Wild Bill Hickok and well-meaning but disaster-prone Jane try to help the local saloon proprietor out of a jam by promising to fetch a music hall star from Chicago.

However, a case of mistaken identity in Chicago lands Jane in hot water with the townsfolk back home. Will this tough cookie be able to turn things around and win them over, and will she win the heart of her secret love?

This comedy Western includes many tender moments and some famous musical numbers including Deadwood Stage, Black Hills

of Dakota and, of course, Windy

City.
While it has been 50 years since The Police Headquarters Musical Society first staged Calamity Jane in 1966, the history of the

group goes beyond that.

In the late 1940s a few police officers and their wives started a group called The New Court Players, and went on to perform small plays in a wooden hut near police headquarters, in Springfield, Chelmsford

When some of the original members moved from the headquarters, and others retired, the number of members fell. The small number that remained made a

decision to perform a musical -Calamity Jane - and The New Court Players became The Police

Headquarters Musical Society. In the 1980s the society was renamed The Essex Police Musical Society, and since then they have produced two shows each year at the Assembly Hall. More than 50 years later they are

still going strong and over the last few years they have seen a rise in membership. This year they are also supporting three worthy caus-es – COPS, The Care of Police Survivors, as well as Kids Inspire

and the Essex Air Ambulance. Sally Low, a member of the society, said: "Many police forces traditionally have choirs, many of which historically are male voice choirs, but we believe that EPMS are the only police musical society in the country and possibly the world.

"EPMS takes no money from the public purse and are totally self-funding, although we are grateful to the chief constable for allowing us to use the police HQ facilities for the production of our shows.

Another drama society will also be putting on another equally entertaining musical at the Palace Theatre, Southend, from April 13

Turn to page 22

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film review

Stage

Dolly snares her man

From page 21
Southend Operatic and
Dramatic Society will be presenting Hello, Dolly! - the tale of widow, Dolly Levi. It follows her efforts to marry well-known half-a-millionaire, Horace Vandergelder, and send his money circulating among the people like rain-water the way her late hus-band, Ephraim Levi, taught

Along the way she also succeeds in matching up the young and beautiful Widow Molloy with Vandergelder's head clerk, Cornelius Hackl; Cornelius' assistant, Barnaby Tucker, with Mrs Molloy's assistant, Minnie Fay; and struggling artist, Ambrose Kemper, with Mr Vandergelder's weeping niece, Ermengarde.

Mrs Levi tracks Vandergelder to his hay and feed store in Yonkers, then by train back to Mrs Molloy's hat shop in New York, out into the streets of the city where they are all caught up in the great Fourteenth Street Association Parade, and finally to the most elegant and expensive restaurant in town, the Harmonia Gardens.

There, Dolly is greeted by the waiters, cooks, doormen and wine stewards in one of the most famous songs in

the history of American musi-cal comedy, Hello, Dolly! What happens in the end?

Dolly gets her man, of course, and even makes him glad she caught him.

Dolly leaves the stage at

the end of act two with a wink to the audience as she Vandergelder's bulging cash register, and promises that his fortune will soon be put to good use, quoting her husband as she savs: "Money, pardon the expression, is like manure.

"It's not worth a thing unless it's spread around encouraging young things to

For further information and tickets to see Calamity Jane in the Assembly Hall at Essex Police Headquarters, Sandford Road, Chelmsford, from Tuesday to Saturday, April 12 to 16 at 7.30pm, with a 2.30pm matinee on Saturday, visit the society's website at epms.org.uk or call the booking line on 07867 851355.

For tickets and further information about Hello, Dolly! at Palace Theatre, Southend, from, April 13 to 16, visit the Palace Theatre website at southendtheatres.org.uk or call the box office on 01702

EDDIE THE EAGLE (PG, 106 mins)

HEN Baron Pierre de Coubertin kindled interest in the modern Olympic movement at the end of the 19th century, he proposed a series of ideals to epitomise the spirit of the sporting contest.

"The most important thing in the Olympic Games is not winning but taking part; the essential thing in life is not conquering but fighting well," he professed.

That mantra of fearless yet honest participation was perfectly exemplified by Cheltenham-born athlete Michael Edwards, who became a media sensation as Eddie "the Eagle" Edwards in 1988 when he represented Great Britain in the ski jump in Calgary.

His remarkable story of triumph

against gravity, which swelled the patriotic hearts of a nation, provides the creative spark for Dexter Fletcher's silver medal-winning com-

Screenwriters Sean Macaulay and Simon Kelton don't let the truth get in the way of telling a good yarn slaloming between historical fact and humorous artistic licence to ensure their film remains giddily air-

Fletcher's light touch behind the lens concentrates on the camaraderie between a remarkable under-dog and his fictional trainer, who defied the snooty naysayers to prove that anything is possible when you take a leap of faith.
Since he was a boy, Edwards

(Taron Egerton) has driven his father Terry (Keith Allen) to distraction with a burning dream to compete in the Olympics.



The young man struggles to find a sport that suits him, so he switches attention to the Winter Olympics and discovers a loophole in the rulebook that would allow him to become Britain's first representative in the ski jump since 1929.

Jump since 1929.
Aided and abetted by his mum,
Janette (Jo Hartley), Eddie heads to
Germany to a ski jumping training
centre run by hard-drinking former competitor Bronson Peary (Hugh Jackman), who was booted off the US team by legendary coach Warren Sharp (Christopher Walken).

Bronson takes pity on Eddie and helps the newcomer to master the basics. But Dustin Target (Tim McInnerny), chairman of the British Olympic Committee, refuses to let Eddie compete on a technicality and adds a qualifying standard of 61m to the rulebook at the last minute. With time running out before the Calgary games, Eddie hits the European ski jumping tour with Bronson, determined to soar to break records rather than bones in

his quest for Olympic qualification.
Eddie The Eagle is an unabashedly crowd-pleasing delight for all ages. Egerton brings a sweetness and steely resolve to his plucky fish out of water, who defiantly tells a crowded news conference: "I did not come here as a novelty act... and I will not be going home as one."

Jackman offers robust support rab-

ble-rousing from the sidelines. In real-life, Edwards never climbed atop the Olympic winner's podium, but this charming film is champion.

Released: April 1 RATING: 7.5/10

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Throughout the year you can enjoy a drink and a bite to eat in The Bell's comfortable bar – open all day, every day – or a delicious meal in its 50seater Chimes Restaurant, which is open every evening and for Sunday lunch. Its Mid-Week Menu, offering a choice of two courses for £10.95 or three courses for just £11.95, is packed with a wide range of choices, from whitebait and Italian pasta to smoked mackerel and soup of the day to start, followed by a fantastic range of main dishes such as homerange of main dishes such as nome-made pie of the day, home-cooked ham with eggs, pan-fried liver and bacon, baked seafood and home-made lasagne. If you have room for more then there are a range of deli-cious sweets to enjoy from the trol-

ley.

An a la carte menu is served in the restaurant on Saturday evenings which also has extensive choice including venison pate, Scottish smoked salmon, garlic mushrooms, and rosemary and garlic brie for starters, and succulent roast, pork tenderloin, lamb shank, chicken Portobello – succulent chicken breast

smothered with Madeira and mushroom sauce - as well as grill and fish dishes for mains.

All of this is complemented by a wide range of side orders and desserts.

More choice is available on Sunday as staff serve a snack menu in the bar area and a comprehensive blackboard which always includes a choice of four roasts, the famous homemade pie of the day and fresh fish, and other dishes.

The Sunday Lunch Menu costs £9.95 for a main meal, £11.75 for two courses and £13.25 for three courses.

There is also a comprehensive Bar Menu offering a range of favourites from prawn cocktail, potato wedges and rack of ribs, to burger meals, scampi and ploughman's.

The Chimes Restaurant can also be hired for private functions, whether you want to enjoy a sit-down meal for up to 50 people, or a buffet-style celebration for up to 100.

During the summer you can enjoy

al fresco dining at the front of the premises, and every Thursday from 9pm there is a Quiz Night in the bar

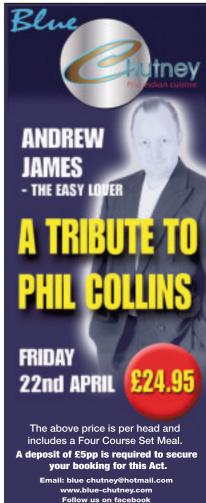
area.
With so much to offer, including free wi-fi, it is clear why so many people make The Bell & Chimes their first choice, whether they are looking for a quick lunch, a bite to eat after work, the perfect location for a social gathering or celebration, or the venue for a business lunch.

For more information, or to make a reservation, call The Bell & Chimes Restaurant on 01245 400616 or visit bellandchimesrettendon.co.uk.





MAIN RD, RETTENDON COMMON, RETTENDON 01245 400616 www.bellandchimesrettendon.co.uk



31-33 The Broadway, Wickford, SS11 7AD

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To have your event considered for publication, send the details AT LEAST publication, send the details Al LEASI
10 DAYS before the issue date to:
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House, Great Oaks, Basildon, SS14
1AH. You can e-mail us at:
letters@yellowad.co.uk PLEASE NOTE:
We cannot guarantee that all entries will be included.

However, you can add the details of your event to our website at www.yellowad.co.uk

Saturday, April 2

- Quiz Night In aid of Cat Action Trust 1977, St Margaret's Church Hall, Lime Avenue, Leigh, £4, to book call 01702 477163 / 540903.
- Thorpe Bay Horticultural Society Spring ■ Morpe bay Porticulturial society spring Flower and Homecraft Show – St Augustine's Church Hall, SS1 3HB, 2.15 pm Admission 50p. ■ Rayleigh History Walk – Rayleigh Windmill, Bellingham Lane, SS6 7ED, £2, details Milk o 11268 775328. ■ Basildon Saturday Club – For people with
- Basicion Sattiricay Ciuto For people with special needs, 9am to noon, games, music, arts, crafts. Ages 14 upwards, Frypa Hall, The Fryth, Basicion. 01268 415409.

 Counselling service The Olive Tree Centre, 9am-9pm, call anytime and we will get back to you, 01702 524346, enquiries@olivetreecentre.org.uk.
- enquiries@olivetreecentre.org.uk.

 Yugioh Club play and trade yugioh, 120
 Southend Road, St Catherine's Church Hall,
 Wickford, SS11 8EB, mini-tournaments,
 1.30-4.20pm. 07985 671289.

 Dads and Kids Club The Megacentre,
 Rayleigh, 10.30am-1.30pm, free entry for
 ages five to 17 with their fathers and father
 figures. 01268 779100.

 Sturkey Merging Club. St Michael Is

- figures. 01268 779100.

 Saturday Morning Club St Michael's Church Hall, Leigh Road, 10am to noon, free entry, Inter-Church Caring for the Elderly and Disabled. 01702 437863.

 Brush Strokes Art Group Highlands Methodist Church, Leigh, 9.15am-12.15pm, new members welcome. 01277 627043.

 Different Strokes Exercise Class St Peter's Church Hall, Eastbourne Grove, Southend, for stroke victims, 2.30pm. 01702 612509.

 Jazz workshop Southend Jazz Co-
- 01702 612509.
 Jazz workshop Southend Jazz Co-op, Hadleigh old Fire Station, Hadleigh, 10am-1pm, £5 per session (concessions).

South East Essex Ramblers - five-mile

- walk from Clements Hall to Rochford return, 10am rear car park Clements Hall, Hawkwell, SS5 4LT. Details 01702 547963.

 Ron Spack's Dinner Jazz Westcliff Hotel, Westcliff, 12.30pm. 01702 345247.

 Sunday School The Ark, Hadleigh Methodist Church, Chapel Lane, SS7 2PQ, 11am to noon, ages three to 10. Call 07585 601815 or 07967 913344.

 Quaker Meeting for silent worship and meditation Quaker Meeting House, Dundonald Drive, Leigh-on-Sea, 10.30–11.30am, followed by conversation.

 King's Church Southend Blenheim School, off Blenheim Chase, Leigh, every Sunday 10.30am-noon, 01702 523639.

 Greek Community of Southend & District, Church of St Barbara, St Phanourious and to noon. 01702 466435.

 Sunday Club TGH Evangelical Church, Kiln Road, Thundersley, (ages three to 12), Bible stories, craft, singing, 10.45–11.45am, no charge, details 01702 554904.

 Mojo Friendship Club Travellers' Joy, Downhall Road, Rayleigh, 11am, details Moo 07757 658799 or 07842 211218.

Monday, April 4

- Games Club St Clement's Church, The Broadway, Leigh-on-Sea. Scrabble, chess, rummikub, backgammon and lots more. 2pm-4pm. Tel 07884 148148. Ron Spack's Jazztet Oakwood, Rayleigh Road, Eastwood. Ian

- Rayleigh Road, Eastwood. Ian Thompson, sax, Gareth George, guitar 8,30pm, 01702 512819.

 Coffee Morning Christ Church, Wickford, Jam to noon. All welcome.

 Club 50+ 1B Queens Road, Southend, 9,30am-3,30pm, daily, £2 day pass, details 01702 346863.

 Sunshine Coffee Morning for parents in Craylands and Felmores area. Briscoe Community Centre, 9-11am, free workshop, coffee and creche. Call Dawn 07880 035968, or turn up.

 Dance class usually six-week course, ballroom, Latin American, Ashingdon and East Hawkwell Memorial Hall. Info: 01702 546219/542349.

- 9.45am-12.30pm, 10am to noon, art: 12.30-2.30pm, choir: 2.30-4pm, indoor bowls: 2-4pm. £2, 01268 465854.

 Senior Citizens Club – Richmond Hall,

Benfleet, 1.30-3.30pm.
■ Counselling Service – The Olive Tree
Centre, 9am-9pm, call anytime and we will
get back to you, 01702 524346,

- enquiries@olivetreecentre.org.uk
- Over-50s Keep-fit Classes Fryerns
 Community Centre, Pat 01268 770294.

 Over-50s session Megacentre Rayleigh
 7 Brook Road. Badminton and table tennis 7 Brook Hoad. Each in ton and 22-4pm. £3.50 inc refreshments and equipment. 01268 773100.
- Activity Session for adults with special ■ Activity Session for adults with special needs – 10am to noon. The Megacentre, Rayleigh, 7 Brook Road, Rayleigh, £1 per session, no charge for carers.
 ■ Duplicate Bridge – Balmoral Bridge Club, Highlands Methodist Church, Olive
- Club, Highlands Methodist Church, Olive Avenue, Leigh (opp Thames Drive), 1.15pm-4.30pm, call Vermon 01702 343611 or Tony 01702 520993.

 Duplicate Bridge Thorpe Bay Bridge Club, 62 Southchurch Boulevard, Southend, non-members of all standards welcome, 2-4.45pm (no partner needed), 7.30-10.30pm, call Danny 07843 771774.

 Weekly Craft Workshop St Peter's Church Hall, Thundersley, Benfleet, 6-8pm, details Michelle 07730 582784.

 Basildon Players Amateur Dramatic Group 8-10pm, James Hornsby High School, Leinster Road, Laindon, details Jeff Levy 07913 426371, email

- Scrioor, Letrister Road, Larindorf, details Je Levy 07913 426371, email join@basildonplayers.co.uk. Zumba Pitsea Day Centre Over-50s, Northlands Pavement, Pitsea, 9.15-10am. 01268 465432.

- Northlands Pavement, Pitsea, 9.15-10am. 01268 456432.

 Beginners Computer Course Pitsea Day Centre Over-50s, Northlands Pavement, Pitsea, 1 Jam-1pm. 01268 456432.

 Short Mat Bowls Club in Hadleigh welcomes new members, Carney, Short Mat Bowls Club, in Hadleigh welcomes new members, Carney, Short Mat Bowls Club, Pitor Mat Bowls In Thundersley, beginners velcome, details 01268 779174.

 Indoor Short Mat Bowls Pittiewell Bowls Olub, Pitory Park, Southend, Pay 01268 777666.

 Indoor Short Mat Bowls Pittiewell Bowls Olub, Pitory Park, Southend, Pay 01268 777666.

 Indoor Short Mat Bowls Pittiewell Bowls Olub, Pitory Park, Southend, Pay 01268 777666.

 Molton Short Mat Bowls Pittiewell Bowls Olub, Pitory Park, Southend, Pay 01268 777666.

 Whist George Hurd Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, for over-50s, 10am to noon, details 01268 465854.

 Senior Citizens Club Chyligrove Centre, Butneys, 130-330pm, 01268 263995.

 Pensioners stall York Road Outdoor Market, Southend, &am-2pm.

 Evening of clairvoyance Room 2, Paddocks, Long Road, Canvey, 7.30pm, 23, all profits to local charities, healing available after service 9pm, 01268 691922.
- available after service 9pm, 01268 691922.

 Healing in Basildon 10.30am-4pm,

what's on

- qualified NFSH healers, no charge, all donations to local hospice, call 07956 353564 for an appointment.

 Development Healing Circle Face Salon, Burdett Avenue, Westcliff, an understanding of spiritual healing and prayer, 8-9.30pm, 07879 004744.

 Fitness Walking from Leigh Tennis Club, Highlands Boulevard, Leigh, 7.15-8.15pm, 01702 715509.

 Scrabble Club Wesley Church Hall, Elm Road, Leigh Broadway, (opp police station), beginners welcome, no partner needed, 7-10pm, 23, call 01268 727915.

 Hadleigh Castle Townswomen's Guild Appliance hall, Old Fire Station, High St, SS7 2PA, 1.30-3.30 pm. Visitors £2.50.

Tuesday, April 5

- IT help sessions Billericay Library, 10.30am to noon. Details 01277 624624. Magic: The Gathering Club play and trade, beginners welcome, Laindon Community Centre, SS15 6NX, 6-10pm email: BasildonMTG@hotmail.com.
- emair: Basildonimi I Gernormail.com.

 Parent and Toddler Messy Play Group –
 Buttercup Club, St Michael's and All Angels
 Church, Sir Walter Raleigh Drive, Rayleigh,
 9.30am and 11am. 01702 712150.

 Alzheimer's Society Men's Motivational
 Group call 01702 345156 or 343121.
- Group Gall 01702 343150 of 343121.

 Anchor Folk Club Brooke Williams, 7-9
 North/aw Drive, Westoff, 8pm, 28, 01702 715111.

 Counselling service The Olive Tree
 Centre, 9am-9pm, call 01702 524346,
 enquiries@olivetreecentre.org.uk.

 Yoga Class Thorpedene Community
 Centre, Delaware Road, Shoeburyness,
- Centre, Delaware Road, Shoeburyness, 7-8.30pm, £6, bring a blanket and yoga mat, ages 16-plus. 07961 314983.
 Social Dance Class instruction, in ballroom, Latin American and sequence, 8.30-10.30pm, Ashingdon and East Hawkwell Memorial Hall. 01702 546219/542349.
 Table Tennis 7.30-10.30pm, The Megacentre, 7 Brook Road, Rayleigh, 23.60 per session.
 Weekly Craft Group Oasis Coffee House, 189 Leigh Road, Leigh, 2.30-4pm. No charge. Emma 01702 471873.
 Willows Park Short Mat Bowls Culto requires new or experienced players –

- Willows Hark Short Mat Bowls Club requires new or experienced players James Hornsby School, Laindon. First session free, call or text 07952 043456. Social Dance 1.45pm, St Cedd's Church, Bridgewater Drive, Westcliff. Ballroom, sequence, Latin, 01702 618771.

 Evening of clairvoyance – St Cecilia's Christian
- Spiritualist Church, 9 Lord Roberts Avenue Leigh, 7.15pm, £2, Anne 01702 556470.



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competition

- Folk Music The Hoy at Anchor Folk Club, Royal British Legion, 7/9 Northview Drive, Westcliff, Steve Tilston, 8pm. 01702 715111. Tea Dance Ashingdon Memorial Hall, Ashingdon Road, Rochford, ballnoom, Latin and sequence, 2-4pm. 01702 584575. Scrabble Club Hockley Social Centre (rea filbran) 6.90-100m fres thav viets free 0.176
- of library) 6.30-10pm, first two visits free, 01702 205910
- 2059 10.

 Ladies Fellowship Salvation Army in Hadleigh, 7.30pm, 50p per week or annual subscription, just come along or call 017002
- 551470.

 The Puffer's Club, Exercise Class for people with breathing difficulties run by people with breathing difficulties, Ambleside Sports and Social Club, Ambleside Drive, Southend, 12.45-2.30pm. 01702 610050/466827. Pathfinders Blind and Partially Sighted Group – Fryerns Baptist Church, Whitmore Way. 9.20pm. 20pm.
- Group Fryerns Baptist Church, Whitmore Way, 9.30am-2pm.
 Evening of clairvoyance St Cecilia's Church, 9 Lord Roberts Avenue, Leigh, every Tuesday 7.15pm, £2 enquiries Anne 01702 556470.
- 556470.

 The George Hurd Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, for the over-50s, yoga: 10-11am, sit down yoga: 11.10-12.10, keep fit: noon to 1pm, line dancing: 1.20-2.20pm, chess: 1.30-3.30pm, craft: 1.30-3.30.01268
- 465854.

 Singles Social Group The Mews, Nelson Mews off Clarence Road car park, Southend, age 50-plus, 8pm. 07970 432994.

 Singles Friendship Club for 50-plus South Benfleet Social Club, 8.15pm, details Maureen 01268 692998.
- Maureen 01268 692998.

 New and nearly new stall outside St Martin's Church, Town Centre, Basildon, (if wet in church foyer), 10am-noon.

 Table Top Sale Outpatients Foyer, Southend Hospital, 9.30am-3pm, Breathe Easy
- Southend Hospital, 9.30am-3pm, Breathe Easy Southend, helping support people with lung problems. 01702 258661.

 Carpet Bowls Eastwood Community Centre, top of Morrisons car park, 3.30-5.30pm, no experience necessary, £2 per session, joining fee £5, first session free.

 Bingo and Hoy Wick Community Centre, Wickford, 1.30-4pm, details John Clarke 01268 570575
- 570575.
 Top Cats Social Club Castle View School, Meppel Avenue, Carrvey, 7-9.45pm, for adults with learning disabilities, aged 25-plus, £2 per session, details 01702 341250.
 Tuesday Luncheon Club Inter-Church
- luesday Luncheon Club Inter-Church Caring for the Biderly and Disabled, Avenue Baptist Church Hall, Milton Road, Westcliff, fo people living alone or with their carers, details 01702 478691/525141/340617.

 Little Lunchers Activity Club St Michael's Church, Rayleigh, 11.45am-1.15pm.

 Vange Tots Vange Community Centre,

CRYPTIC CLUES

uncomfortable (3,2,4)

ACROSS

stuff! (6)

preparation (6)

strength (5)

steps to take (5-4)

Vange Hill Drive, Vange, 9.30-11.30am, admission £1, snack and drinks provided for all. 01268 498642.

012b8 498642.

Shoebury Flagship – Rainbow Children's Centre, Friars School, Constable Way, Shoebury, 1.30-3.30pm, health visiting team with advice and support for parents with babies and children up to five. 01702 577656.

Wednesday, April 6

- Leigh Travel Club talk on Italian Dolomites by Colin Hendry and Barbara Kinder, Iveagh Hall, 67 Leigh Road, Leigh-on-Sea. Doors 7.30pm, £2. Details Lynda 01702 474475.
 TEDFAS (Thames Estuary Decorative and Fine Arts Society) The Freight House, Bradley Way, Rochford, 10.30am and 2pm. Tribal Rugs of the Black Tent. Speaker: Brian MacDonald. Visitors welcome. Details 01702 479416 or 01268 771120.
 South East Essex Ramblers nine-mile walk, Bures to Little Horkeslev, 9am car share from
- South East Essex Hamolers Inne-mile Walk, Bures to Little Horkesley, 9am car share from Victoria Road car park, Rayleigh, SS6 8EG. Details 07519 145218. Five-mile walk Stambridge and fields, 10am layby outside nurs-ing home, SS3 0NL. Details 01702 354375.
- Ing Irone, SSS of Unit. Details 01702 394375.

 Hatha Yoga Class Leigh Community Centre, Leigh-on-Sea, 9.30-11am, 01702 552260.

 Sculpture, Stone Carving & Lettering Traditional tools and professional tuition. 8-10pm, Studio Workshop, West Road, Shoeburyness. Jim Davis 01702 292867

 Southend Beating Bowel Cancer Support Group Nazareth House, I ondon Road.
- Southend Beating Bowel Cancer Support Group Nazareth House, London Road, Southend, 1.30-4.30pm, details Janet Wagstaff 01702 312959.

 Line dancing lessons 12.30-2.30pm, St Margaret's Church Hall, Lime Avenue, Leigh-on-Sea, SS9 3PA. 07948 108195.

 Counselling Service The Olive Tree Centre, 9am-9pm, call anytime and we will set book to you 10.172/5.20246.
- Centre, 9am-9pm, call anytime and we will get back to you, 01702 524346, enquiries@olivetreecentre.org.uk.

 The Concord Ladies Club of Rayleigh 1.30-3pm. Caley Hall, Crown Hill, Rayleigh, 01288 743240.
- Leigh Singles Social Club 45-65s, Bellini's,
- Legri srigigs soxial club 45-oss, Bellin S London Road, Leigh, leighsingles.co.ulk. Activity Session for children with special needs, aged five to 18, The Megacentre, 7 Brook Road, Rayleigh. Donation of £1 per session, siblings welcome. Graham's Social Tea Dance Richmond Hall, Richmond Avenue, Benfleet. Ballroom, Letin and convence deport for all belitions.
- Latin and sequence dances for all abilities, 2
- Latin and sequence dances for all abilities. 2
 4.25pm, over-18s, £4.01268 75247.
 Barn Dance Grand Cellidh Club, Royal
 Naval Association, East Street, Southend, live
 music, 8.30pm, 01702 553622.
 Indoor Carpet Bowls, St Edmunds Hall,
- Pantile Avenue, Southend, 2-4pm, details Olive 01702 625069.

Win tickets for a night at the opera

OPERA and Ballet International will proudly present an Ellen Kent production of Tosca next month and we have three pairs of tickets to give away to

see the show.

With international soloists, a highly praised chorus and full orchestra, this traditional production is a heady mixture of true love, torture and treachery.

The production, which will be at the cliffs Pavilion, Southend, on Thursday, April 7, includes two of the best roles for tenor and soprano, plus a truly blood-curdling villain, Baron Scarpia, who also happens to be the chief of police.

With a magnificent new set and towering marble pillars, fabulous costumes and a featured boys' choir with a shepherd's boy solo, this most popular of operas

is sure to delight with its tender, moving arias Vissi d'arte and E lucevan le stelle. For more informa-

tion and to book tickets visit southendtheatres.org.uk or call the box office on 01702 351135.

To win one of three pairs of tickets to see the production at 7.30pm on Thursday, April 7, as well as a souvenir programme, just answer the following question.

Who is blood-curdling villain in Tosca?

Mario Cavaradossi Cesare R٠

Angelotti C: Baron Scarpia To enter the competition telephone your answer – A, B or C – to (0901 307 1660) along with

your name, address, telephone number and email.

Alternatively text YATOSCA (space) followed by A, B or C, and your name, full address and email to 63333.

Calls cost 50p per call plus your phone company's access charge.

FINALE: The Te Deum

which concludes act one of Puccini's Tosca

Calls from mobiles will cost considerably more.

Texts cost 50p plus your standard network rates. If you do not wish to receive details on any other products or services, please text EXIT at the end of your message. Lines close on Sunday, April 3. Entries received after the closing date will not be counted but may still be charged.

Service Provider: JMedia UK Limited, RH16 3EG. Tel: 020 7720

double crossword

1. Cure for a dirty wet-suit? (3-8) 9. Do something - take part! (3) 10. Unwell and resting, but 11. Cover doctor put on primate 13. Began in a surprised way? (7) 14. The sauce in this barrel is hot 16. Suitable for a servant in meal 18. Conspicuous because lacking in ability? (7) 19. Could perhaps show 20. It provides notes on the right 21. Eastward-pointing extremity 22. Try insect in international

QUICK CLUES

10. Try (9) 11. Banish (5)

16. Jew (6)

20. Deign (9)

21. Signal (3)

13. Appendix (7)

14. Underhand (6)

18. Apprentice (7)

22. Heat level (11)

19. Drawing room (5)

1. Coin-collector (11)

ACROSS

DOWN

sport (4,7)

- 2. Sailor put up deserter (3) 3. Sounds as if one needs warm clothing here!
- 4. Silent about having to join up (6)
- 5. Shell for mad person? (3-4)
- 6. Close shave from an object within reach? (4,5) Bomb thrown by worker angered in riot (4-7)
- 8. Write terse dental material (4,1,6)
- 12. Everyone in unison suddenly (3,2,4) 15. The topic is 'The Underdog' (7)
- 17. Patch up broken couples? (6) 19. I object to doctor disposing of half the wine
- (5) 21. The match ended all square (3)

CRYPTIC SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Akin; 3 Seacraft, 9 Extract; 10 Trick; 11

Across: 1 Akin; 3 Seacraft, 15 Middle; 17 Carving-knife; 20

Pleact; 21 Acrosol; 22 Polished; 23 Pear.

Down: 1 Anemones; 2 In the; 4 Enters; 6 Cal's-whiskers; 6 Aligned; 7 Take; 8 Casting-voles; 12 Jeweller; 14

Fravail; 16 Engage; 18 Issue; 19 Drop.

Royal Sear.

Royal

QUICK SOLUTIONS

QUICK SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Dust; 3 Preserve; 9 Legless; 10 Cover; 11
Carelesseness; 12 Chinge; 15 Stolen; 17 Apprehensive; 20
Chinn; 21 Hinglet; 22 Badgered; 23 Pour, Down; 1
Delicacy; 2 Sugar; 4 Resist; 5 Second to none; 6 Revisal;
7 Earn; 8 Belligerence; 12 Inventor; 14 Impound; 16
Charge; 18 Igloo; 19 Scab.

DOWN

2. Vase (3)

3. Perfect (5)

5. Nonsense (7)

7. Unfeeling (11)

8. Wage-earner (11)

15. Relationship (7)

19. Fragrance (5)

4. Noon (6)

6. Rascal (9)

12. Early (9)

17. Mend (6)

21. Dog (3)

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ECENTLY refurbished to a high standard and spilt over three levels with an en-suite to master bedroom, this four bedroom terraced family house has a large rear garden and off-street parking for two vehicles. It is close to schools, amenities and railway links direct to London. An open day is being held on Saturday, April 9, from noon to 1.30 pm.

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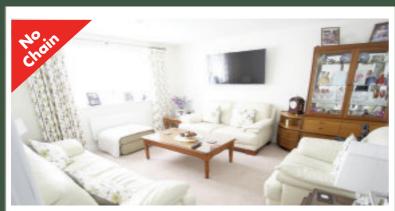




RAYLEIGH £315,000

Popular location just off Bull Lane, refurbished 2 bedroom bungalow, luxury fitted kitchen, 19' lounge, superb bathroom, double glazed, 80' established rear garden, off road parking, no chain, must be viewed internally.

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Benfleet £409,995

£300 towards legal fees A Luxury ¾ bedroom detached home offering well planned accommodation, superb 24' kitchen/diner, utility room, walk in wardrobes to two bedrooms, bathroom & en-suite shower room, large garage, own drive, no onward chain, superb family home.







HAWKWELL £275,000

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Fernleigh Drive, Leigh on Sea Three Bedrooms £450,000

A modern three bedroom detached family home which is located south of the london road and within walking distance of leigh road and broadways extensive bars, shops, restaurants and Chalkwell catchment. Close by is Chalkwell mainline railway station am early viewing is strongly recommended.

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Park View Drive, Leigh on Sea Three Bedrooms £600,000

Offers in Excess of £600,000 A truly remarkable link detached bungalow standing on a large south backing plot which has been superbly refurbished by the current owners to provide stunning living accommodation. This home offers three double bedrooms, three bathrooms and an incredible 32'6 X 23' open plan kitchen family area. Early viewing advised so call today to book your appointment.

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Leighton Avenue, Leigh on Sea Two Bedrooms £260,000

A large ground floor apartment with two double bedrooms, direct access to own rear garden, off street parking and a detached garage. There is also the freehold of whole building on offer. This character property does require modernisation throughout.

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London Road, Leigh on Sea

Three Bedrooms £290,000

Sitting on the top floor of this character building with fabulous south facing views over Leigh is this immaculately maintained three bedroom apartment which boasts two luxury bathrooms, a lounge with south facing balcony, a modern fitted kitchen with integrated appliances.

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Hawthorns, Leigh on Sea

Three Bedrooms £300,000

A great size three bedroom semi detached house with the benefit of a garage and own driveway. This spacious home also offers a 21'2 lounge diner, downstairs toilet and three good size bedrooms. There is also a delightful west backing rear garden. The property is located close to good transport links including the A127, local shops and schools.

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Pall Mall, Leigh on Sea Two Bedrooms £300,000

Price Guide £300,000- £315,000 Call to arrange a viewing on this absolutely stunning ground floor apartment which boasts an open plan lounge and kitchen, two double bedrooms, a luxury bathroom suite, off street parking, its own private rear garden along with a share of the freehold.

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Pembury Road, Westcliff on Sea Four Bedrooms £525,000

A fabulous and recently constructed four bedroom semi detached house located just off just off The Leas and within easy reach of the beach, Hamlet Court Road shopping facilities and mainline railway station giving direct to Fenchurch Street. The accommodation is spread out over three floors and includes a spacious entrance hall, cloakroom and westfacing lounge.

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Woodfield Road, Leigh on Sea Three Bedrooms £399,995

Situated south of leigh road and within walking distance of the beach and chalkwell mainline railway station is this charming period property which still retains many original features throughout and must be viewed immediately. Offering a welcoming entrance hall, lounge, sitting room, open plan kitchen/diner plus a further study area, whilst the first floor offers three bedrooms and family bathroom.

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Lower Park Road, Wickford Five Bedrooms £749,995

Situated on a plot extending to approximately two acres this detached chalet offers five bedrooms, lots of living and entertaining space including a family size eat in kitchen, spacious lounge with feature working fireplace, dining conservatory whilst in the grounds there is a completely self contained annexe plus double garage and outbuildings. To fully appreciate what is being offered call today to

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Elm Close, Rayleigh Three Bedrooms £500,000

Exceptional three bedroom detached bungalow situated in one of the most desirable settings in Rayleigh and being ideally located for local schools, shopping facilities and Rayleigh Station serving Liverpool Street, London. The property is nestle within this quiet cul-de-sac and benefits from a wide plot, off road parking, garage and well manicured rear gardens. We fully recommend an early internal appointment to fully appreciate the accommodation on offer.

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Albert Road, Rayleigh Four Bedrooms £449,995

Price Guide £459,995 This stunning four bedroom detached family home situated in this idyllic location being within close proximity to local schools, shopping facilities and bus routes and with Rayleigh High Street and Station close to hand. The property boasts spacious ground floor living accommodation, off road parking and garage. Viewing is highly recommended.

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Hawkwell Road, Hockley Three Bedrooms £450,000

A stunning 3/4 bedroom semi detached chalet with well planned accommodation, a good sized family size kitchen breakfast room incorporating an open plan living area. Other features include a separate dining room which could be configured as a fourth bedroom and also a ground floor shower room. Good sized garden with raised stone patio/terrace and lawn.

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The Maze, Leigh on Sea

Four Bedrooms £469,995

Open Day Saturday 2nd April 11am - 12pm Detached executive style family house offering spacious well planned accommodation featuring fitted kitchen breakfast room, large double aspect lounge ideal for entertaining, four bedrooms with en suite to the master a study and dining room. Large garden with double garage and off road parking for two vehicles.

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Polstead Close, Rayleigh Three Bedrooms £395,000

Fabulous three bedroom detached bungalow situated in this most desirable location being on the doorstep to local schools, shopping facilities and with Rayleigh High Street and station serving Liverpool Street, London close to hand. Call today to view.

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Samuels Drive, Thorpe Bay Four Bedrooms £500,000

An elegant goldsworthy built property with four bedrooms. On a large plot and within Bournes Green catchment. Offered for sale with no onward chain with two reception rooms, extended kitchen and a conservatory. The rear garden measures some 65ft and enjoys a secluded aspect. Driveway and independent driveway to the front. Call today to book a viewing.

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Johnstone Road, Thorpe Bay Two Bedrooms £400,000

Stunning Bungalow with no onward chain is located on the highly sought after Burges Estate deceptive living space includes a luxury kitchen, two double bedrooms and en suite to master bedroom. Move straight into this impeccably presented bungalow in a prime location within moments of the seafront and walking distance of Thorpe Bay Broadway.

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Oakleigh Avenue, Southend Three Bedrooms £230,000

A charming home with three generous size bedrooms, modern kitchen and luxury bathroom suite within moments from C2C rail links. Being offered with no onward chain. Located within a short stroll of Southend East mainline station serving London's Fenchurch Street.

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Southchurch Boulevard, Southend

Four Bedrooms £499,999

Fabulous size four bedroom detached house on the ever popular southchurch boulevard with three reception rooms, 83ft rear garden and a large front area. There is lots of potential for extension subject to the usual consents and would ideal for a family. Close by to local grammar school and high school. Call us today to view.

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Beechmont Gardens, Southend

Three Bedrooms £285,000

A character home with three generous size bedrooms, large garden and within close proximity of major rail links and London Southend Airport. A bright and airy three bedroom home is located in a convenient location. West backing garden measuring some 60ft and great extension potential subject to the usual consents.

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Southchurch Blvd, Southend Four Bedrooms £525,000

Detached family home sits on a south backing plot with a garden measuring 80ft x 48ft. With a luxury kitchen/dining room opening onto a super full width along with a versatile conservatory. With an impressive living space and great scope to extend further, subject to the usual consents. Meticulously presented by our current vendors.

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HADLEIGH £365,000

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- * Double Glazed Windows & GCH
- * No Onward Chain





LEIGH-ON-SEA £550,000

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- Chalkwell Station
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Off Leigh Road, Leigh-on-sea £450,000

Detached three bedroom family house with large garage and parking for two cars, situated in a sought after south A.13 location off Leigh Rd within walking distance of Leigh Road/
Broadway shops, Chalkwell Station and Park. The house is beautifully presented with three bedrooms luxury bathroom, luxury kitchen, spacious lounge, dining room and cloaks/w.c. Ref Eti5425



Old Leigh Cottage £249,995

Requiring extensive modernisation and refurbishment, Currently arrange on the first floor as a one double bedroom with very large adjacent bathroom - lots of scope to divide the bathroom and create a second bedroom. South facing front garden, Estuary views, spacious lounge with cast iron fireplace, good size kitchen, double glazed sash windows, gas central heating. Extremely rare opportunity to buy one of these lovely quaint fishermans cottages dating back to 1855. Ref etl 5424



Available soon - Leigh-on-sea £P.O.A.

Full details available from Thursday 31st March for this stunning landmark property dating back to the early Edwardian era. The house has been lovingly restored by the present owners who have truly spared no expense in creating one of the best homes in Leigh-on-sea. Internal viewing is essential - First brochures will be available from 31/3/16 and first viewing appointments soon after.

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Leigh-on-sea £309,995

A most attractive semi detached bungalow occupying a prominent and wide corner plot in this favoured location within easy reach of local shops, schools and amenities, DETACHED GARAGE WITH REMOTE CONTROL UP & OVER DOOR, West facing garden, two double bedrooms, spacious lounge, conservatory, wet room/w.c. fitted kitchen. Ref etl5423

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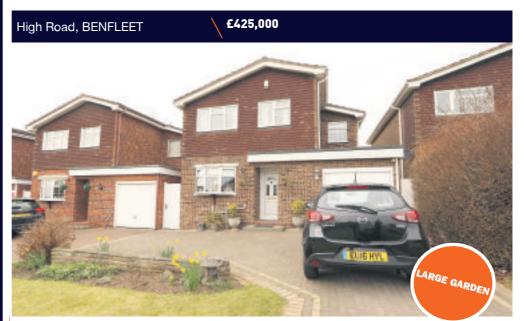




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HADLEIGH £350,000

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Three Bedroom Semi Detached Family Home \ Modernisation Required \ Lounge 18'11 x 10'10 \ Kitchen 14'2 x 8'7 \ Bedroom One 12'8 x 10'11 \ Bedroom Two 10'10 x 9'11 \ Bedroom Three 8'7 x 7'10 \ Bathroom & Separate WC \ Garage \ Backing Onto John Burrows Playing Fields \ Fantastic Outlook To Rear \ Popular Location \ Walking Distance Of Westwood Academy \ Close To Town Centre \ No Onward Chain \ Sole Agents \ EPC Band F \ Call 01702 555888



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Hadleigh - t: 01702 555 888 Rayleigh - t: 01268 742 742

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This three bedroom house in Thundersley is decorated to the highest of standards and comprises of a large lounge, modern kitchen with dining area, downstairs W/C, two doubles and a single bedroom and a modern family bathroom. There are front and rear gardens as well as a driveway and garage. EPC Band C / Fees Apply



This is a modern three bedroom semi detached chalet, situated within a quiet cul de sac close to the local amenities. This property benefits from three good sized bedrooms, a modern kitchen and bathroom and an L shape lounge diner. There is a rear garden and off street parking available! EPC Band C / Fees Apply



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Hockley

£1150pcm





This modern two bedroom ground floor apartment is situated within this sought after development adjacent to Rayleigh train station. There are two double bedrooms, a four piece bathroom suite, modern kitchen, lounge with patio doors onto the private decked terrace and allocated parking! EPC Band C /





This is a recently refurnished four bedroom detached house within a quiet cul de sac close to Southend Airport. The property comprises of a lounge, dining room, modern kitchen, downstairs WC, four bedrooms with a large master, and a mod.ern bathroom. There are front & rear gardens and off street parking. Available March! EPC Band D / Fees Apply





This good size recently decorated three bedroom semi detached house in Hockley comprises of a large modern kitchen, lounge, dining room, further reception room, family bathroom and three bedrooms. There is a good size rear garden and plenty of off street parking. Available for an immediate move! EPC on order / Fees Apply

team



















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Westcliff On Sea 310,000









Three bedroom semi detached chalet situated within a sought after location of Westcliff close to Southend hospital and various schools. The property offers enormous potential in relation to redevelopment or extensions, subject to planning permission and has a 40° frontage which increases to the rear of the property to 52' along with substantial rear gardens.

Vestcliff On Sea







Attractive and well maintained second floor apartment situated within a popular location of Westcliff. Preston Road is situated close to Hamlet Court Road shops and Westcliff railway station and South of the London Road. The property has the advantage of full gas central heating and double glazing as well as views towards the Estuary and own allocated off street parking space.



and four ring hob, stainless steel extractor fon, recess for Iridge and freezer, plumbing and recession washing machine double bedroom, shower with separate wo, full gas can'ts heating and double playing, permit parking analiable





E7,000 PER ANNUM

The premises consist of a first floor office which benefit with a main open plan office area with two separate offices to the rear, male and female toilets and kitchen. The office has been recarpeted throughout and provides intercom access from the ground floor entrance. Three allocated parking spaces in a secure parking area with electric gates

IIXED INVESTMENT FOR



This end of terrace two storey building of traditional construction comprising of a ground floor retail area currently let at £8,950 per annum. With a self contained three bedroom maisonette situated over two floors above requiring refurbishment and currently vacant.



P TO LET

Situated in Southend High Street, the property comprises of a three storey mid terrace retail unit. On the ground floor retail area of approx 1,500 sq ft, fitting rooms and further storage. The second floor provides a further 500 sq ft of sales area with fitting rooms. The third floor provides male and female toilets, kitchen, managers office and further storage.



OUTHEND OF

This recently refurbished first floor front office benefiting from three separate offices and storage area. Recent works carried out include new double glazing, new carpets and decorated throughout. There is communal male and female toilets and kitchen. Close to Southend Town Centre.

OUTHEND ON SEA P TO LET £7,500 PER ANNUM



Modern style timber and glazed shop front with centre door. Main sales area with rear lobby and cloakroom off. Storage space under stairs. Doors from rear of shop to rear yard area.



Ground Floor Shop measuring approx 752 sq ft with kitchen, toilet with car parking to rear, previously occupied as a greengrocers.

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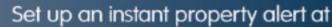




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Hockley £795,000

heavily extended and improved detached house set in a prestigious location between Rayleigh & Hockley. benefits from an abundance of space to include 4 reception rooms, a large kitchen diner, a utility room, 4 bedrooms and a dressing room, a walk in wardrobe and en suite to the bedroom and a family bathroom



Prince Avenue £325,000

3 bed semi, good size rear garden with a 24ft garage leading with an adjoined office 11'5 and a large summer house. the property has a spacious reception hall, a lounge to the front of the property, a g/f cloakroom, a fitted kitchen diner and on the first floor are 3 bedrooms and a spacious four piece bathroom suite.

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Rochford £269,995

3 bed semi detached house with the benefit of a 55ft rear garden backing onto farmland. The property has the advantage of a block paved driveway and garage providing off road parking. Internally the property has a ground floor shower room, a kitchen breakfast room, a separate dining room and a lounge.



Hullbridge £189,995

A two hedroom first floor modern apartment set in the village on Hullbridge. The property benefits from a 14'9 lounge, a modern fitted kitchen with integrated appliances, a 11'2 bedroom, a modern white bathroom, off road parking and a communal rear garden. No onward chain, sole agents.



Ashingdon £345,000

DETACHED three bedroom bungalow in need of modernisation with a garage and off road parking the property benefits from a good size south facing rear garden, gas central heating, a 17'11 lounge diner, an en suite to the master bedroom, a spacious reception hall. no onward chain, off road parking and a garage



42 Hedingham Place, Rochford, Essex, SS4 1UP

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Ashingdon £325,000

A DETACHED spacious 3 bed bungalow in need of modernisation which has been reflected in the price but would make an ideal project to extended and reconfigure (s.t.p.p) a quiet residential location with access to local shops. double glazing, a landscaped rear garden, off road parking for 2 vehicles & south rear garden



Westcliff on £210,000

2 bed g/f flat allocated parking. There is a 29' lounge overlooking the communal gardens. Built to a high standard the specification includes modern high gloss kitchens, contemporary white sanitary ware to the bathrooms, gas central heating and double glazing.



Ashingdon £795 pcm

A one bedroom semi detached bungalow benefiting from off road parking and double glazing situated in a convenient location close to bus routes and local shops. the property has modern bathroom suit as central heating and double glazing. The property enjoys a SOUTH acing garden, working applicants only, no pets. Available NOW.



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South Fambridge £1,400 pcm

4 bed detached family home. The property includes three eception rooms, utility room, en-suite, family bathroom area as well as a double garage. Viewing essential. Working applicants only, no pets. Available late March 2106.



Hawkwell £1,595 pcm

3/4 bed cottage. Set within picturesque gardens. Accommodation includes, rear aspect lounge, dining room round floor. Three further bedrooms and bathroom to the



irightmove

2 bed house located in a very convenient location close to Hockley nainline station to Liverpool Street and the village centre. The ood size lounge and a garage in a block, viewing essential, No Pets, b Housing benefit. No Smokers. Available mid April 2016.





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2009 MERCEDES E-CLASS E250 Diesel, Automatic, Silver, Blue Efficiency SE, Alloys, Only 39k Miles!

Cash Price: £12,400 | Deposit: £0.00 PCP Finance From: N/A HP Finance From: £307.97° p/m



2012 PEUGEOT 208 ALLURE Petrol, Manual, Black, 1.4, 5 Door, Alloy Wheels, 32k Miles!

Cash Price: £6,900 | Deposit: £0.00 PCP Finance From: £134.66" p/m HP Finance From: £109.88" p/m



2004 VOLKSWAGEN GOLF GT TDI Diesel, Manual, Grey, Alloy Wheels, A/C, 114k Miles

Cash Price: £7,900 | Deposit: £0.00 HP Finance From: £194.99° p/m



2012 HONDA CIVIC I-VTEC SE Petrol, Manual, White, Alloys, A/C, Absolutely Mint, Only 21k Miles!

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2010 MERCEDES E-CLASS E250 Diesel, Automatic, Black, Blueefficiency Sport, Full Leather 38k

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2007 PORSCHE CAYMAN 24v Petrol, Manual, Alloy Wheels, Full Leather, 45k Miles!

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2011 VOLKSWAGEN PASSAT TDI Diesel, Automatic, DSG Bluemotion Techonoloy, Grey, 70k Miles

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2013 HONDA CR-V I-DTEC SR Diesel, Automatic, Tranquil Blue, Half Leather, Reverse Cam! 71k Miles!

Cash Price: £15,900 | Deposit: £0.00 PCP Finance From: £314.62° p/m HP Finance From: £395.68° p/m



2007 MECEDES M-CLASS ML320 Diesel, Automatic, Blue, CDi SPORT, Alloy Wheels, Full Leather, 59k Miles!

Cash Price: £12,300 | Deposit: £0.00 PCP Finance From: N HP Finance From: £306.52* p/m



2009 VAUXHALL CORSA CDTI Diesel, Manual, Silver, A/C, Velour Trim. 124k Miles!

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Cash Price: £3,500 | Deposit: £0.00 PCP Finance From: NA. MP Finance From: £84.47" p/m



PCP Finance From: N/A HP Finance From: N/A



2010 NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA Diesel, Manual, Biege, Alloy Wheels.

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2011 VOLKSWAGEN TOURAN TO Diesel, Manual, 1.6, Green, A/C, Alloy Wheels. 72k Miles

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Alloy Wheels, Superb 4x4!

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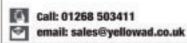


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BLUES' PLAY-OFF HOPES FAL

Football

Rochdale 4 Southend United 1

Sky Bet League One SOUTHEND United manager Phil Brown has conceded that his team's chances of reaching the League One play-offs are virtually nil after this comprehensive defeat at Spotland on Friday.

Blues supporters however, at least the more optimistic fans, will agree with captain Adam Barrett, who refused to admit that the dream is over, with eight games to go and 24 points still to play for.

Blues started well and took the lead on 28 minutes when a through ball from Anthony Wordsworth was neatly controlled by Jack Payne who lifted the ball over the advancing keeper.

Rochdale, who came into the

game as League One's in-form team, pressed for an equaliser and it was veteran goal poacher Grant Holt who scored from close range

after a left wing cross was allowed to cross the area for him to convert at the far post on 41 minutes.

Half-time arrived with the teams all square, but it was Rochdale who stepped up a gear in the sec-

The Lancashire side have playoff aspirations of their own and pushed forwards with a shot crashing off the bar after only two minutes of the second period.

The Dale continued their good work down the left flank and as the ball was pulled back to Joe Rafferty, he sent a low shot skimming past Daniel Bentley's right hand after 49 minutes.

They continued to press and it was no surprise when another sortie down the left saw captain Jamie Allen score a similar goal on 61 minutes.

Brown brought on Sam McQueen and Jamar Loza for Glen Kamara and Kevan Hurst, and Blues tried in vain to get back into the game. David Worrall replaced captain John White as the Blues changed to three at the back, and they pushed forward with hopes of a revival, with Barrett shooting over when he was well placed.

Rochdale continued to threaten and wrapped up the points on 90 minutes when Joe Bunney brushed aside two challenges before beating Bentley at the sec-

ond attempt.
Southend United's next game sees Sheffield United visit Roots Hall on Wednesday, March 30.

Hall on Wednesday, March 30.

Rochdale: Lillis, Rafferty, Eastham,
Canavan, McNulty, Camps (Cannon
90+1), Allen, Rose, McDermott (Bunney
84), Holt, Mendez-Laing (Vincenti 71).
Subs not used: Lancashire, Barry-Murphy, Collis, Syers.

Southend: Bentley, White (Worrall 75),
Thompson, Barrett, Coker, Hurst (Loza
63), Degan, Wordsworth, Kamara
(McQueen 63), Payne, Barnett. Subs not
used: Weston, Atkinson, McLaughlin,
O'Neill.

Referee: Jeremy Simpson Attendance: 3,018



SLIM CHANCE: Phil Brown

Stars align for Noble's testimonial

Football

West Ham United 6 West Ham All-Stars 5 Brian Jeeves reporting from Upton Park WEST Ham United fans turned out in force to honour captain Mark Noble, who celebrated 12 years at Upton Park with a hugely entertaining testimonial match against a starstudded Hammers legends team, led by Sir Trevor Brooking and Billy Bonds.

Since making his debut in a League Cup tie against Southend United in 2004, Noble has accumulated 358 appearances and a host of former stars, including Paolo Di Canio, Rio Ferdinand and David James took to the pitch to show their support.

The 28-year-old midfielder acknowledged all those who supported the day, saying: "What an amazing day for everyone, my family, the fans, the club. It couldn't have turned out any better.

As is often the case on these occasions, exchanges were timid yet warmly received by the capacity crowd, and it was the sprightly All-Stars who grabbed the lead thanks to a neat side-footed effort from Craig Bellamy.

Former England goalkeeper James received some good-natured stick from the Boleyn faithful after denying man of the moment Noble an instant equaliser, but in the 25th minute the crowd got the moment they craved as the Hammers skipper found the bottom corner to restore parity.

And the fun had only just begun. Spanish goalkeeper Adrian haphazardly dribbled the length of the pitch before firing the current crop of Hammers ahead. Alex Song added a third from close range, while Noble's curing effort hit the foot of an upright soon after. Shortly before the break Diafra Sakho tapped home after Noble teed him up to make it 4-1.

The entertainment continued after the break with Teddy Sheringham reducing the arrears for the All-Stars after Dean Ashton had been thwarted. Sakho's second of the afternoon added to the precession of goals to restore the current team's three-goal advantage.

Ashton brought the house down with the goal of the afternoon, a spectacular bicycle kick following Ian Bishop's pinpoint centre, and the popular frontman pulled the All-Stars within touching distance of their counterparts with his second soon after.

The huge crowd remained behind to a man, watching a penalty shoot-out after the fulltime whistle. But of course, this was never about the result. Noble used the afternoon to raise much needed money and awareness for his chosen charities, Help for Heroes, Richard House Children's Hospice and The

Dylan Tombides Foundation

Noble said after the match: "To be honest I feel worse now than I do after a normal Premier League game.

"Just the emotion and stress of putting something like this together. I didn't realise what goes on behind the scenes to get a game like this up and running. I can't thank everyone enough for what they have done for me, it was a massive honour.'

Former Hammers captain Bonds said: "Mark has given all the money to charity today, which is a great gesture."

West Ham United (From): Winston Reid, Aaron Cresswell, Alex Song, James Tomkins, Andy Carroll, Adrian, Pedro Obiang, Diafra Sakho, Mark Noble, Joey O'Brien, James Collins, Angelo Ogbonna, Sam Byram, Manuel Lanzini, Emmanuel Emenike, Michail Antonio, Raphael Spiegel, George Dobson, Moses Makasi, Amos Nasha, Djair Parfitt-Williams, Alex Pike Makasi, Amos Nasha, Djair Parfitt-Williams, Alex Pike West Ham United All-Stars (From): Robert Green, David James, Ludek Milklosko, Paul Konchesky, Danny Gabbidon, Anton Ferdinand, Christian Dailly, Keyn Keen, Scott Parker, Feddy Sheringham, Trevor Sinclair, Dean Ashton, Jack Collison, Paulo Di Canio, Marlon Harewood, John Moncur, Stewart Downing, Steve Lomas, Jamie Redknapp, Carlton Cole, lan Bishop, Chris Cohen, Yossi Benayoun, Rio Ferdinand, Ravel Morrison, Matthew Upson, Michael Carrick, Elliott Ward, Jimmy Walker, Bobby Zamora, Lee Bowyer, Freddie Sears, Chris Powell, Taylor Tombides, Julian Dicks Referee: Andre Marriner

Assistants: Darren Blunden and Paul Kelly Fourth Official: Andy Woolme Attendance: 35,036

Non-league round-up

Concord better rivals Chelmsford

By Brian Jeeves

CONCORD Rangers took the National League South bragging rights after a second half goal from Steve Cawley saw the Beach Boys overcome local rivals Chelmsford City at the Aspect Arena. A crowd of 585 were at the Canvey club's home for this eagerly anticipated derby clash. Cawley's strike moves Concord into 10th place in the table, while City are hovering two points above the drop zone in 18th.

Braintree Town enhanced their National League play-off ambitions with a 1-0 win over a stubborn Bromley outfit at Cressing Road. A bumper crowd of 1,321 saw Simeon Akinola's goal on the stroke of half-time earn the Iron maximum points.

Big winners of the day in the Ryman Premier Division were East Thurrock United. The Rocks kept up their playoff charge with a 3-0 triumph at Metropolitan Police, Ryan Sammons, Thomas Wraight and Ben Marlow were all on target for the visitors.

A last-minute own goal from David Diedhiou earned relegation-threatened Brentwood Town a 1-1 draw at Hendon after former Canvey Island man Kezie Ibe had fired the hosts ahead.

But it wasn't such a happy Easter for several of the region's other Ryman Premier clubs. Billericay Town went down by the odd goal in five to Farnborough at New Lodge, and there was a 2-0 setback for Canvey Island at Tonbridge Angels. Grays Athletic were also beaten as vis-

In Division One North Billy Roast and Rhys Henry were on target as Maldon & Tiptree won 2-0 at Wroxham. Nicholas Reynolds and James Ishmail guided Romford

to a 2-1 win over Great Wakering Rovers, Billy Johnson

replied for the villagers.

Meanwhile, Ricky Griggs hit the only goal as Brightlingsea Regent took the honours at Tilbury.

Daniel Aristidou and Ross Dedman scored either side of the break as Haringey Borough saw off Redbridge 2-0, and Heybridge Swifts were also winners, edging out Bury Town 2-1. A crowd of 270 at Bridge Avenue saw AFC Hornchurch and Thurrock play out a tense goalless draw, while Andres Losada Tobon was on target as Aveley grabbed a 1-1 draw at Cheshunt. Elsewhere Witham Town went down by a single goal at Cray Wanderers.

In the Essex Senior League, Bowers & Pitsea continued to show few signs of an FA Vase hangover after recording a thumping 7-1 victory over Tower Hamlets at the Len Salmon Stadium, and there was an entertaining 3-1 derby win for Barking over Clapton. Basildon United maintained their title challenge with a narrow 2-1 success over Eton Manor and there were wins for Sporting Bengal United, 3-1 over Southend Manor, and Wadham Lodge, 2-0 at Burnham Ramblers. Waltham Forest were also among the goals, thrashing Enfield 1893 4-0.

Ilford recovered to grab a vital point in a 2-2 draw with Greenhouse Sports at the Cricklefield Stadium, and it was all-square between Hullbridge Sports and Stansted (1-1), while London Bari's clash with Sawbridgeworth Town ended goalless. In the ProKit UK Essex Olympian League, Hannakins Farm won a thrilling Premier Division clash with Newham United 5-3, while Harold Wood Athletic were 4-0 winners at Newbury Forest

In Division One, Basildon Town saw off Hutton by a single goal, and there was a goal-feast between Old Southendian and Snaresbrook at Garon Park, the eventual outcome a 4-4 draw.In Division Two Roydon beat Westhamians 4-1 and FC Hamlets edged out East Londoners 3-2.



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